

mission from his comrade, who were endeavoring to force the soldiers to desecrate the place where his master was concealed, confirmed the dismal forebodings of his heart. Again the sword and the spear, which he disengaged from his heart, quivered not more, and that instant—Zerai was stretched upon the floor, his life's blood streaming from his heart!

Borne on the wings of love, Flavius sought the mansion of Zerai, to save if possible the object of his adoption from the fury of the despoiler. Another moment, and he would have been too late. The execrators of the fallen Zerai turned their weapons upon the daring intruder, supposing him to be a foe; but when his smiling eyes met theirs, the swords fell from their sheathed hands.

"This increases my rest," he exclaimed, in a tone of chiding. "The conscious tortures dared not dismay, well knowing him to be high in the favor of the gracious Titus."

"You must leave the city instantly," said Flavius to Zerai, "or even my power will not be sufficient to protect you. We have conquered; the city is filled with Roman soldiers; here you have nothing to expect but death." He joined and supported the now weeping Zerai as he spoke.

Instantly seizing a casket which contained some valuable jewels, father and daughter left their home, a prey to the devouring element, and by their presences were conducted to a place of comparative security without the walls.

We must here be allowed to pass over an interval of two months, and, leaving the desolate wastes of Judea, transport our readers to the abode of Rome—once the capital of the world, the queen of the empire—to breathe the perfumed gales of fair Italia's shores. Our object in so doing is to escape the tedious narration of the toilsome and lengthened march of the veterans, and each of the captives as were destined to adorn the future triumph of Caesar, to their homes.

Overflowing with wealth, the genius of Rome swooped aloft on the pinions of an eagle beyond a prostrate world. Kings were led captive and in chains at the will of her triumphant host. There rolled, in sullen majesty, the dark waves of the royal Tiber, along whose banks the green willows bent their gigantic boughs over the stream, spreading a sombre shade over its sparkling surface. On the left, were the pebbly gardens of Caesar. Often within its shady bower had he first borne that name gained his military hours; here, perhaps, he mentioned those mighty plans by which he subjected the world to his nod. But he has long since gone, gone to his deep and everlasting rest; he sleeps in a bloody grave, and dearly has his death been avenged. The best, the brightest blood of Rome has been poured out; like the waters of a living fountain has it flowed, to appease his malice. Sleep, sleep in peace, thou august shade! Thou have wept thy death, and fame yet speaks thy name.

The sun was at its height when Titus made his triumphal entry into Rome. A train of cars, bearing the plunder of Jerusalem and the golden vessels of her temple, preceded him. Six milk-white steeds, covered with golden trappings, with graceful curvets bounded along the streets of the city, harnessed to the shining car which bore the victorious warrior. Shouts of gladness rent the air at his approach—thousands of voices welcomed the conqueror home.

Notwithstanding the warning given to the Jews by the destruction of Jerusalem, where no less than ten hundred thousand had perished, by famine and the sword, several cities still obstinately refused to yield to the dominion of Rome. Masada will be remembered when the fame of Titus shall be overwhelmed by the dark surge of oblivion. The number of inhabitants which that city contained were not sufficient to defend its walls. Rather than fall into the hands of their enemies, and finding no hopes of enduring a siege, they determined to put an end to their own lives, and thus avoid the horrors of captivity.

Ten men were chosen by lot to perform the work of death, and the rest, stretching themselves beside their wives and children, whom they had already slain, after an affectionate, yet almost tearless farewell, calmly awaited the stroke. The tender females, with unquailed fortitude, had gazed on the resounding sword, and shrink not when its point sought their heart's blood!

The ten still remained alive. The day was again cast—and bidding his comrades farewell—and holding his knife in his hand, the unfortunate wretch on whom the lot fell, in blood, beside their inanimate friends! He then examined carefully, to see if life yet remained in any, but the blood had been too sure. Setting fire to the city, he fell upon his own sword, and with a single groan, his spirit fled to its last account! Thus perished the inhabitants of Masada.

The astonished Romans beheld the bright flames streaming to the heavens, without being able to ascertain the cause. Caustically ascending the hill on which the city was built, and finding no obstruction, they burst open the gates.

The horrid spectacle that presented itself on their entrance appalled the stoutest heart. Titus wept, and many a brave soldier beside, when they beheld husband and wife locked in their last embrace, with their children stretched beside them, weltering in blood! And well they might; it was a scene that might cause a heart of stone to melt.

While Titus was fighting her battles, a far different drama was acting at Rome. Christianity was making rapid strides. Their numbers multiplied so fast that it alarmed the zealous worshippers of the gods. An edict was issued by the katheric mild Vespasian, condemning all who would not renounce their superstitions, and return to the temple of the true gods.

The fortitude and heroic endurance of the followers of the apostles then shone in the most brilliant colors. Often did the sandals of the spacious amphitheatre drink the blood of the persecuted christians. Alone were those condemned placed in the centre of the arena, with no other weapon but a sword, while the furious lion of Africa, or the ravenous tiger of Bengal, was doomed upon them. Sometimes indeed they were victorious, but often torn limb from limb by the fangs of the brutes. To gaze on a spectacle like this, and derive pleasure from the sight of human tortures, one would need a heart devoid of every feeling of humanity. Yet all ages and sexes crowded these walls. The darkest, brightest stars of Italy shone "a radiant galaxy of charms divine" through the lofty pile.

On the evening of that day when the horrid tragedy of Masada was consummated, it was rumoured in the city that a secret assemblage of christians had been surprised by a band of soldiers, and thrown into prison. This news soon reached the ears of Flavius, who from indisposition had not accompanied his beloved commander, and he was not long in learning that the fair Zerai and her father were among the prisoners.

The Jewish captives had been allowed, or rather commanded, to return to Judea where many of their nation, who, during the siege, had fled from Jerusalem, and yielded to the mercy of the Romans rather than endure the horrors of famine, had located themselves.

Their city was without walls by the express command of the emperor, who justly feared their turbulent disposition. Many of the captives returned to their own land, but numbers still remained, among the latter was Zerai.

The assemblies of the christians had been held in secret, in the still silence of midnight, since the edict of the emperor. One of these conventions, in which were both Zerai and his daughter, was surprised by a centurion of the Praetorian guard, a zealous polytheist, and taking with him a sufficient force, he arrested and dragged them to prison. They were separated as soon as taken, and each was consequently ignorant of the fate of the other. Flavius found a friend in the jailor of Zerai, who was aware of his in-

timacy with the "Jew-christian," as he called his prisoner, and found, with the aid of a bribe, but little difficulty in gaining admittance to her prison. Flavius was her accepted lover; a few weeks was to have joined them in indissoluble bonds. Judge then what must have been his sorrow, his disappointment, when he heard of her arrest. He followed the crippled jailor up the lengthened stairway of Nero's tower; opening the outer door, and crossing the anteroom, they entered her chamber; she was reclining on a sofa, but rose as they entered. Her cheek was "as pale," but a bright glow of pleasure mantled o'er it when she beheld her lover.

"This is a visit of kindness," she said, extending her manacled hand, while a tear trembled in her eye.

"Zerai chained, like the vilest malefactor! Can such cruelty exist in the breast of man?"

"I have worn ornaments lighter and more pleasing than these," she answered, assuming a playful tone, and a sweet smile illumining her countenance; but the next moment fled, and she earnestly inquired if he had any tidings from her father.

"I have been unable to see him, but he was informed by the soldier who guarded him, that he was confined in one of the vaults of the amphitheatre. My object in coming here was to assure you that every effort in my power shall be made to procure his and your release. I fear we have but little favour to expect, unless you can be persuaded to renounce your idle superstitions and offer the customary sacrifice. Vespasian is not naturally cruel, but he most strenuously upon your compliance with his edict, are we will parson."

She sank upon the settee as he concluded, and covered her face with her hands; for some moments she spoke not, but when she again looked up there were traces of tears upon her cheek—in a melancholy tone she said, "For us there is no hope but in him who is mighty to save."

Shecked and almost beside himself at this unexpected answer, Flavius entreated, may, he even knelt and implored her, to revoke her words, and not extinguish his last remaining hopes. He painted his love in glowing colors, drew a vivid picture of conubial felicity, and once more conjured her, for his and for her father's sake, to consent to the only condition which could save her life. Her tender frame shook with no such violence that Flavius almost expected her pure spirit would wing its flight to the regions of uncertainty, but she soon regained her composure. "It may not be," she said; "I cannot purchase my life at the expense of my eternal salvation; to you it may seem strange that I should so easily sacrifice my life, but did you feel that divine assurance of a blessed heretofore your wonder would cease, were I to consent to his faith, would upbraid me with my wickedness. No, no, it cannot be." The jailor's heavy step was now heard upon the stairs. Flavius, still unconvinced, pressed her to relate, but she interrupted him.

"No entreaties would move me. The time is come for you to depart—farewell; if possible, see my father once more, and then forget the unfortunate Zerai. May the God of Israel be your guard, and in his own good time bring you to the knowledge of his truth."

Flavius pressed her hand to his heart, while he disclaimed the idea of ever ceasing to remember her. As he turned to depart, she placed a scroll in his hand.

"Keep this then, and promise, when I am no more, to read it with attention as my dying bequest; it was written by the inspired and beloved follower of him in whom we trust, and was given to me by one who has gone to receive the reward of a life spent in the service of his master. In any other circumstances I would sooner part with it; I need not tell you to preserve it for my sake, but I beseech you to pursue it for your own."

The jailor now entered, and once bidding her farewell, with a heavy heart Flavius left her to the solitude of her prison.

Before the dread tribunal of Roman Majesty, in the lofty capitol, Zerai and his daughter awaited, in fearless silence, the sentence of the emperor.

Erected on a base of polished marble, the colossal statue of Capitoline Jove to gild above the judgment seat of Vespasian, the latter part

of whose reign was stained by avarice and cruelty. Hundreds of Roman citizens were condemned to witness the trial of the Hebrew christians.

Their crime was fully proved—they had transgressed the edict of the emperor, and set at defiance the majesty of the Roman commonwealth, of the Roman laws. But still, such was the mild and forgiving temper of the emperor, a way of escape was yet open to them—a renunciation of their faith, of their crime, might yet save them from the pangs of a bitter death. Such were the words of the emperor—a mild, yet firm refusal, was the only answer.

They lastly pray, that the British mode of executing criminals may be adopted, viz, dropping them through an enclosed platform, as in this way, the least possible violence will be done to the feelings of the spectators.

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most thinks of concluding with the United States of North America.

The Russian squadron in the Mediterranean has just been reinforced by a ship of the line, of 74 guns, and two frigates of the first class, so that it will now consist of nine ships of the line, six frigates, and a number of brigs and corvettes.

German papers of the 8th state, that the Duchy of Brunswick had been thrown into consternation by a decree from the Duke, ordering "a general arming of the country, which includes all the male population from the age of 18 to 20." The object is said to be an attack on Hanover.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.—The Algemeine Zeitung of the 20th ult. contradicts the statement that the Porte, besides granting a favourable reception to M. Joubert, had invited the return of the ambassadors to Constantinople. The Sultan is said to be reluctantly opposed to any special overtures until the Russians shall have evacuated Moldavia and Wallachia, released the Pruth, and restored the fortresses upon the Danube. Both parties are strenuously preparing for the next campaign. Accounts from the frontiers of Servia state that the Porte intends to bring into the field, next spring, 150,000 new combatants from Bosnia, which is said to be completely pacified, and from Albania. It is doubted, however, whether the Porte will be able to accomplish this, and it is also said that the Albanians have revolted, and shut up the Pacha of Scutari within the walls of that place.

The last letters from Vienna state that the same news had given way to the most alarming reports. It was said that the whole Turkish army was in motion towards the Danube, to invade the Principalities, and, on the other hand, that the Polish army had received orders to be ready to march.

Intelligence from Jassy to the 18th ult. states that great preparations for a combined attack on the Asiatic and European territories of the Porte were making at Odessa and Sebastopol, and are designed to form communications, if possible, between the army in Armenia, under General Paskevitch, and the grand army on the Danube, and to interrupt the communication of the Turks with Constantinople, and break up their depots. It is calculated that Russia will take the field with 200,000 men. The war said to be still very popular in Russia, being considered as a holy war. No movements have been made, of late, in Bulgaria, on account of the severity of the weather, and heavy falls of snow.

Dates of the 26th Jan. mention that the Emperor had declared its willingness to agree to the exchange of prisoners proposed by Russia; provided that Jusuf Pacha and his attendants should be given up. The Sultan continues to prosecute the military preparations with the greatest vigor. He has formed a new corps of cavalry, which composes the flower of his body guard.

In politics little was known to strengthen the hopes of peace. A Russian sloop of war had arrived from Sebastopol, with despatches from Peterburgh, and had been sent back with letters containing the Sultan's answer, which was said to make known his wishes of a pacification on the conditions he had expressed—that the concessions of any king should be required of him. There was no hope of obtaining his assent to the independence of Greece; but it is believed that he will not during his reign seek to disturb the order of things established in Greece by the three allied Powers.

The Sultan was still in his camp at Ramiz Jaffick, where he was chiefly spending his time shooting. There was no immediate prospect of his removing his quarters nearer to the scene of next spring's probable operation.

In Little Wallachia, fresh Russian troops are continually arriving. On the other hand, the Turks are not idle: they are busily engaged in strengthening their fortresses on the Danube, and we expect soon to hear of important operations on both sides. According to all appearances, the Russians will attempt a diversion in Armenia. The great obstacle to this operation is Sardinia, for this is the residence of the most famous Mussulmen; 2,000 Turkish emigrants from Morea have lately arrived at Gattiglio. They are in the greatest anxiety.

Russia insists on her original terms, viz.: The freedom of the Black Sea; the observance of the neutrality of the Porte, and compensation for her expenses.

The idea that the Russians, at the opening of their second campaign, will enter Servia, is every more confirmed. A bridge of boats, it is said, is to be formed above Widdin. The Turks are also assembling on that side some considerable forces, which some say amount to 50,000.—Following that plan, the Russians might turn the defiles of Shumla and the Balkan, of which they have extreme fear, and which the Turks consider as impregnable.

GREECE.—The limits of Greece have at last been defined by the Representatives of the allied Sovereigns, which, from the best authorities we understand to be as follows: On the Constan- tine line is to run from Arta to Volo. The line and called Cyclades are to be kept by the Turks; Scio and Mitylene by the Turks. Some

sentences about Candia and Samos having been left, for the King of England to determine, it is left, for the King of England to determine, to which party they shall belong.

The private property of the Turks in countries to the Greeks is to be valued and paid for in like manner the property belonging to Greeks in the part left to Turkey is to be valued and set off against the other. The government of Greece is to pay an annual tribute of one million and a half of piastres, or about £40,000, out of all public Turkish property which by these arrangements comes into its possession.

PORTUGAL.—Lisbon dated to the 21st January, state that Miguel visited Lisbon a few days ago, accompanied by his sisters and a great number of courtiers. His first act was to go to the cathedral of St. Maria da Rocha, where he was received with great physical and mental exertion. The government being fearful that stay in Lisbon might create excitement, had taken extraordinary measures to preserve tranquility. Several changes in the ministry were made.

THE USURPER.—Neal & Mackenzie, of this city, have recently published Dr. McLeavy's tragedy of *The Usurper*; which, as our readers will remember, was twice performed at the Chestnut street Theatre in the winter of 1827-28. In a brief prefase, the Author complains that the conduct of the then acting manager was such as to prevent his play from having a fair run, and that, we presume, is the reason why it is now offered to the public in a printed form. Of the merits of the controversy referred to, we know nothing, remembering only that it made some noise at the time.

Dr. McLeavy, the author of several poems of acknowledged merit, but we do not think the present publication likely to add much to his literary fame. The tragedy is of that kind which cannot fail to prove heavy in the representation, and though it contains many good passages there is not sufficient spirit and interest embedded in it to render it even a good reading play. The plot is borrowed from the early history of Ireland, and turns, as the title implies, upon the usurpation and tyranny of one of the Kings of that country. There are a number of characters, though none of them is marked by strong originality, and the incidents are for the most part quite common place.

THE EDINBURGH MURDERS.—Burke's body was partially dissected, and exposed to public view for seven hours in the hall of the College of Edinburgh, on Thursday. The Scotch Press say, that at least 24,000 people pressed in to witness the spectacle. The physiologists were busily themselves with a cast of lead, and have discovered that the organs

of destruction, &c., so fairly developed, that of ferocity is also prominent. On Monday, the High Court of Justiciary resumed the consideration of the case of Hare. The Lord Advocate put in a statement to the effect, that having clearly ascertained that evidence sufficient to convict could not be produced without the evidence of one of the parties, a proposal was made to Hare to come forward as a witness, and an assurance given him, that if he would disclose any facts relative to the case of Docherty, or other crimes committed by Burke, he should not be tried for any participation in them. Three of the crimes so disclosed were selected for the indictment. It being intended to obtain all the information Hare might possess, he was given to believe, that all possibility of punishment was excluded. The Court, considering that the Lord Advocate had properly exercised his power of screening a witness for the purpose of justice, ordered Hare to be freed from prosecution. He is still detained in custody on a fugitive warrant, at the instance of James Wilson's fugitive. The play was well performed.

Miss Kelly's benefit is fixed for this evening. We have, last evening, gratified with a view of the interior of the Chestnut street Theatre, which has been entirely re-painted and newly ornamented. The prevailing character of the new decoration is gold and green. Great taste has been displayed by the various artists engaged in the work, in the selection of ornaments for the fronts of the boxes, those of the first tier being immense raised stars of gold, and the portion leaf work of the same material, which contrasts prettily with the green ground. The backs of the boxes are ornamented in a style that gives them an appearance of comfort which we never before observed in a theatre. The room is a beautiful novelty, combining taste and utility. It is a cloud work beautifully painted and relieved by a gold tracery round the outer edge of the circle, which reflects the light and relieves the heavier ornament of the lower part of the house. Directly in the centre is a revolving ventilator, which will be of use in the approaching season.—*Daily Chron.*

THE DRAMA.—Miss Kelly has been playing with tolerable success during the past week at Walnut street. Roberts, the comedian, had a good benefit on Tuesday, upon which occasion he selected, with creditable taste, Sheridan's unrivaled comedy of *The School for Scandal*. The principal parts were sustained by our old friends, Warren, Wood, Wemyss, S. Chapman, Miss Kelly, &c., and, of course, the play was well performed.

Miss Kelly's benefit is fixed for this evening. We wish her a good home.

THE CANAL.—A serious disturbance has taken place among the labourers on the Pennsylvania Canal in the vicinity of Clark's Ferry, about 14 or 15 miles from Harrisburg. The following are said to be the leading facts of the case.—Owing to the severity of the winter, the men, amounting to two or three hundred, have been idle for a considerable time, and have become inclined to store-keepers and others for their subsistence. The dome of the theatre has been beautifully decorated, and a revolving sun placed in its centre, which is quite effective.

The company is the same as when here last, with one or two additions in the lower walks of the Drama. Several engagements of stars are announced, and great efforts will be made by the Managers to engage patronage.

Arch street, it is said, will open early next week.

PHILADELPHIA VACCINE INSTITUTION.—We observe, by the public prints, that Dr. Wm. C. Brewster and D. C. Skerrett, Vaccine Physicians of this city, have established an Institution for the distribution of Vaccine matter. City practitioners are supplied gratuitously, agreeably to an ordinance of the Select and Common Councils; to all others the charge is three dollars. By this arrangement, persons making application for virus, from any part of the United States, will receive the same by return of mail, a perfectly safe conveyance in this case. Such an establishment possesses obvious advantages, for those residing in sections of country infested with Small Pox, and other places where Vaccination is desired as a preventive, as it should be every where. The project has been approved by Dr. Physick, and the most eminent of the medical faculty, and the known character of the gentlemen connected with it, will secure for it public confidence. As the existence of this Institution may not be known where its benefits are most needed, editors of country papers would confer a favour on the community by diffusing the intelligence.

TEST OF PERFECT VACCINATION.—All persons should insist on the family surgeon using the test discovered by Dr. Bryce, of Edinburgh. It consists in vaccinating on the other arm, from the first one vaccinated. If the first has been perfect, both pustules will ripen exactly at the same time; if this does not take place, the constitution has not been properly affected, and vaccination must be repeated.—*Arch. of the Month.*

We have pleasure in reciprocating the good wishes of Mrs. Dumont, of Vevay, Ind. Her request shall be carefully attended to. The poetry she has kindly furnished will be found in the April No. of the *Casket*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—M. F. L. will accept our thanks. Her contributions are always agreeable.

Address to Midnight.—Sonex, is pretty. The conceit in the last stanza, though certainly poetical, is rather strained.

By-gone-days shall have a place.

We do not like to disoblige the ladies, and shall therefore publish *Lines by Matilda*. N. K. cannot be accommodated.

MANUAL OF THE VINE.—We have read with some care a book translated from the French of *Thibaut de Berneaud*, called *The Vine Dresser's Manual*, and feel considerably enlightened by the personal.—Though but little acquainted, even theoretically, with the cultivation of the vine, we found the Manual full of interest, and its copious, and, as far as we can judge, accurate details, will furnish agreeable and instructive matter, not only to agriculturists, and those particularly concerned in cultivating vineyards, but likewise to the general reader. The Author is described by Dr. Mitchell, of New-York, (on this subject excellent authority,) as holding a distinguished place among the savans of the present time, and one who may fairly be classed with the most zealous cultivators of natural science, more especially botany, and its relations to farming and horticulture. The subject of the book is treated of under the following general heads. 1. The culture of the vine and its introduction into France. 2. The diseases to which it is subject; their causes and remedies. 3. The art of making wine. 4. Preparation of brandy. 5. Different uses of the products of the vine in domestic economy. 6. A sketch of the diseases peculiar to the vine dressers, all of which are so handled as to display a perfect and masterly knowledge of every thing connected with them. The style of the work is plain, simple, unostentatious, and well adapted for the uses to which it is intended to be applied, being suited to every comprehension.

COMMEMORATION OF RAY.—The scientific gentlemen of London, commemorated the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of the illustrious JOHN RAY, the naturalist, the latter end of November last. The suggestion was first made by Mr. Chidren, the naturalist, and it was eagerly adopted by every gentleman distinguished for his knowledge of any branch of natural philosophy, and the company did real honor to the precursor of Linnaeus. One hundred and thirty men of science and noblemen, assembled on the occasion, and dined at the Free Mason's Tavern. The President of the Royal Society took the chair, and pronounced a just eulogium on the character of Ray, and the services which he rendered to the naturalist, the moral philosopher, the divine, and the civilized world in general, by his numerous writings, the titles of the principal part of which he enumerated. The last he mentioned was "The wisdom of God manifested in the Creation," which was clearly the prototype of a late celebrated work on the same subject.

RAY.—The Sultan was still in his camp at Ramiz Jaffick, where he was chiefly spending his time shooting. There was no immediate prospect of his removing his quarters nearer to the scene of next spring's probable operation.

In Little Wallachia, fresh Russian troops are continually arriving. On the other hand, the Turks are not idle: they are busily engaged in strengthening their fortresses on the Danube, and we expect soon to hear of important operations on both sides. According to all appearances, the Russians will attempt a diversion in Armenia. The great obstacle to this operation is Sardinia, for this is the residence of the most famous Mussulmen; 2,000 Turkish emigrants from Morea have lately arrived at Gattiglio. They are in the greatest anxiety.

Russia insists on her original terms, viz.: The freedom of the Black Sea; the observance of the neutrality of the Porte, and compensation for her expenses.

The idea that the Russians, at the opening of their second campaign, will enter Servia, is every more confirmed. A bridge of boats, it is said, is to be formed above Widdin. The Turks are also assembling on that side some considerable forces, which some say amount to 50,000.—Following that plan, the Russians might turn the defiles of Shumla and the Balkan, of which they have extreme fear, and which the Turks consider as impregnable.

GREECE.—The limits of Greece have at last been defined by the Representatives of the allied Sovereigns, which, from the best authorities we understand to be as follows: On the Constan- tine line is to run from Arta to Volo. The line and called Cyclades are to be kept by the Turks; Scio and Mitylene by the Turks. Some

sentences about Candia and Samos having been left, for the King of England to determine, it is left, for the King of England to determine, to which party they shall belong.

The private property of the Turks in countries to the Greeks is to be valued and paid for in like manner the property belonging to Greeks in the part left to Turkey is to be valued and set off against the other. The government of Greece is to pay an annual tribute of one million and a half of piastres, or about £40,000, out of all public Turkish property which by these arrangements comes into its possession.

PORTUGAL.—Lisbon dated to the 21st January, state that Miguel visited Lisbon a few days ago, accompanied by his sisters and a great number of courtiers. His first act was to go to the cathedral of St. Maria da Rocha, where he was received with great physical and mental exertion. The government being fearful that stay in Lisbon might create excitement, had taken extraordinary measures to preserve tranquility. Several changes in the ministry were made.

THE USURPER.—Neal & Mackenzie, of this city, have recently published Dr. McLeavy's tragedy of *The Usurper*; which, as our readers will remember, was twice performed at the Chestnut street Theatre in the winter of 1827-28. In a brief prefase, the Author complains that the conduct of the then acting manager was such as to prevent his play from having a fair run, and that, we presume, is the reason why it is now offered to the public in a printed form. Of the merits of the controversy referred to, we know nothing, remembering only that it made some noise at the time.

Dr. McLeavy, the author of several poems of acknowledged merit, but we do not think the present publication likely to add much to his literary fame. The tragedy is of that kind which cannot fail to prove heavy in the representation, and though it contains many good passages there is not sufficient spirit and interest embedded in it to render it even a good reading play. The plot is borrowed from the early history of Ireland, and turns, as the title implies, upon the usurpation and tyranny of one of the Kings of that country. There are a number of characters, though none of them is marked by strong originality, and the incidents are for the most part quite common place.

THE EDINBURGH MURDERS.—Burke's body was partially dissected, and exposed to public view for seven hours in the hall of the College of Edinburgh, on Thursday. The Scotch Press say, that at least 24,000 people pressed in to witness the spectacle. The physiologists were busily themselves with a cast of lead, and have discovered that the organs

of destruction, &c., so fairly developed, that of ferocity is also prominent. On Monday, the High Court of Justiciary resumed the consideration of the case of Hare. The Lord Advocate put in a statement to the effect, that having clearly ascertained that evidence sufficient to convict could not be produced without the evidence of one of the parties, a proposal was made to Hare to come forward as a witness, and an assurance given him, that if he would disclose any facts relative to the case of Docherty, or other crimes committed by Burke, he should not be tried for any participation in them. Three of the crimes so disclosed were selected for the indictment. It being intended to obtain all the information Hare might possess, he was given to believe, that all possibility of punishment was excluded. The Court, considering that the Lord Advocate had properly exercised his power of screening a witness for the purpose of justice, ordered Hare to be freed from prosecution. He is still detained in custody on a fugitive warrant, at the instance of James Wilson's fugitive. The play was well performed.

Miss Kelly's benefit is fixed for this evening. We have, last evening, gratified with a view of the interior of the Chestnut street Theatre, which has been entirely re-painted and newly ornamented.

The prevailing character of the new decoration is gold and green. Great taste has been displayed by the various artists engaged in the work, in the selection of ornaments for the fronts of the boxes, those of the first tier being immense raised stars of gold, and the portion leaf work of the same material, which contrasts prettily with the green ground. The backs of the boxes are ornamented in a style that gives them an appearance of comfort which we never before observed in a theatre. The room is a beautiful novelty, combining taste and utility.

It is a cloud work beautifully painted and relieved by a gold tracery round the outer edge of the circle, which reflects the light and relieves the heavier ornament of the lower part of the house. Directly in the centre is a revolving ventilator, which will be of use in the approaching season.—*Daily Chron.*

THE DRAMA.—Miss Kelly has been playing with tolerable success during the past week at Walnut street. Roberts, the comedian, had a good benefit on Tuesday, upon which occasion he selected, with creditable taste, Sheridan's unrivaled comedy of *The School for Scandal*. The principal parts were sustained by our old friends, Warren, Wood, Wemyss, S. Chapman, Miss Kelly, &c., and, of course, the play was well performed.

Miss Kelly's benefit is fixed for this evening. We wish her a good home.

THE CANAL.—A serious disturbance has taken place among the labourers on the Pennsylvania Canal in the vicinity of Clark's Ferry, about 14 or 15 miles from Harrisburg. The following are said to be the leading facts of the case.—Owing to the severity of the winter, the men, amounting to two or three hundred, have been idle for a considerable time, and have become inclined to store-keepers and others for their subsistence. The dome of the theatre has been beautifully decorated, and a revolving sun placed in its centre, which is quite effective.

The company is the same as when here last, with one or two additions in the lower walks of the Drama. Several engagements of stars are announced, and great efforts will be made by the Managers to engage patronage.

Arch street, it is said, will open early next week.

PHILADELPHIA VACCINE INSTITUTION.—We observe, by the public prints, that Dr. Wm. C. Brewster and D. C. Skerrett, Vaccine Physicians of this city, have established an Institution for the distribution of Vaccine matter. City practitioners are supplied gratuitously, agreeably to an ordinance of the Select and Common Councils; to all others the charge is three dollars. By this arrangement, persons making application for virus, from any part of the United States, will receive the same by return of mail, a perfectly safe conveyance in this case. Such an establishment possesses obvious advantages, for those residing in sections of country infested with Small Pox, and other places where Vaccination is desired as a preventive, as it should be every where. The project has been approved by Dr. Physick, and the most eminent of the medical faculty, and the known character of the gentlemen connected with it, will secure for it public confidence.

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